Food For Thought For Atheists To Chew On

SOURCE: Discussion on ExChristian.Net — encouraging ex-Christians 269 comments
The following are comments a Christian named Al posted to a discussion with atheists on a blog article centering on the idea of misotheism (hatred of God). This dialog was posted on ComingInTheClouds.org on May 18, 2016.

Why I'm a misotheist ~ ExChristian.Net



Al Ames a year ago
Raised in the Georgian Orthodox faith, Stalin became an atheist. His government promoted atheism through special atheistic education in schools, anti-religious propaganda, the anti-religious work of public institutions (Society of the Godless), discriminatory laws, and a terror campaign against religious believers. By the late 1930s, it had become dangerous to be publicly associated with religion.
Stalin's role in the fortunes of the Russian Orthodox Church is complex. Continuous persecution in the 1930s resulted in its near-extinction as a public institution: by 1939, active parishes numbered in the low hundreds (down from 54,000 in 1917), many churches had been leveled, and tens of thousands of priests, monks and nuns were persecuted and killed. Over 100,000 were shot during the purges of 1937–1938.
During World War II, the Church was allowed a revival as a patriotic organization, and thousands of parishes were reactivated until a further round of suppression during Khrushchev's rule. The Russian Orthodox Church Synod's recognition of the Soviet government and of Stalin personally led to a schism with the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia. It really amazes me how many people try to put a religious cause to people who were obviously atheist.
View in discussion



Al Ames a year ago
Comfortable with it? You dont know me at all. I hope to heck that God gives people a last chance to accept Him, or maybe some way make it right. I am very thin skinned, and wouldnt make it in war.I think given the right motivation, I could, like defending freedom or such. I hope never to find out. I took martial arts or several years, but gave it up because the though of breaking a kneecap, or gouging somebody's eyes, I guess I just learned barely

enough to hold my own then quit. What you think I am, and what I am, may surprise you.
View in discussion



Al Astreja a year ago
Sounds like a good idea
View in discussion



Al Astreja a year ago
But you are arguing that His creation is now yours. How would you travel it if you werent given that power to do it? I like your idea though, and I hope it is true. Personally I love animals, and a place without people seems better to me.
View in discussion



Al Ames a year ago
No that is not what predestination means.Some He did pre-decide to use in certain ways, but predestination means God seeing all things past, present, and future. For instance, if I was to kill somebody tomorrow, God knows I am predestined to do it.It doesnt mean He makes me do it.
I dont own a lot, but I also live modestly.I buy clothes for work second hand, I dont have a new car-its like almost 20 years old and rusty, etc… But the clothes are all I need, and the car runs fine-it gets me around reliably.
I am not gifted in speaking in tongues, but I agree with you.If people are, then thats where they ought to be, not speaking jibberish in church.
Maybe I am a bag of wind, but I dont hate you, nor wish you anything bad.I hope you can get on with life instead of berating people like me.
Holding grudges are much like holding onto disease, they only affect you, and they prevent you from living life happy, and free.I hope you, and the others here, get to that point where you dont even waste breath on these issues and just enjoy life.~cheers~
View in discussion



Al summerbreeze a year ago
I agree, but if you believe that this isnt the life God had planned, and if you

believe that we were made to be forever, it changes the perspective.I once talked with a lady at church who said" I wonder why God allows hunger to kill so many people".I asked her what she thought of Jesus saying to feed the hungry, and clothe the poor. I Asked her if she sponsored a child or gave to the food bank.
Well obviously things got a little heated, and she replied"I tithe to the church, it should do that". To which i replied, half our money we have left go to local donations and shelters, the other half go to helping people in other countries. Perhaps less ought to be spent on the church "structure" with office costs, janitorial, rent, etc…and do it out of home churches.It is what it is though.
View in discussion



Al glebealyth a year ago
If he was Catholic, why would he murder all those priests?
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/H…
And why did he close down the Catholic churches?
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C…
"It quickly became clear that [Hitler] intended to imprison the Catholics, as it were, in their own churches. They could celebrate mass and retain their rituals as much as they liked, but they could have nothing at all to do with German society otherwise. Catholic schools and newspapers were closed, and a propaganda campaign against the Catholics was launched."
View in discussion



Al Astreja a year ago
Your weak attempt to twist words wont work.As I stated before, those who persecuted the Christians in Russia were atheists.As I stated before, the people who killed in the inquisitions were "Christians". All of them were evil.As far as comparing the two, I find 100% of the time, evil is evil no matter what side of the fence you are on.
My point, which you missed, is religious intolerance was responsible for all of them.Shall i say it again? RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE killed upwards of 50 million people this last century.
All atheists arent religiously intolerant, but I have met a few here already.And dont worry, there are several in my church too.Same characteristics, same people, different beliefs.
View in discussion



Al Astreja a year ago
Well most historians agree he was a person that the bible talks about,I dont know how many believe he was Christ though.Many of the people who claim to be Christian arent-according to Jesus.
Your last point is exactly that, God wanting you to be in His kingdom, but allowing you to go where you want.Forget about torture, He isnt gonna make popcorn out of you
View in discussion



Al Astreja a year ago
Why not write off bad debts? You mean why doesnt God allow evil in heaven?Probably because He created man for a purpose, but allowed man to be free, not robots.If you are programmed to love somebody, or love them under threat, its not love.And before you even jump on it, hell is Gods kindness.He allows atheists, or haters of him eternal life-just not in His kingdom.Thats why He wishes none should perish, but allows us to decide who's rules we live by.
View in discussion
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Why I'm a misotheist ~ ExChristian.Net



Al Astreja a year ago
Yes, I have hear it many times.
View in discussion



Al glebealyth a year ago
I dont force anyone to believe in my God.But the people here arent okay with me having my beliefs.Rather they find it their duty to try to disprove what I believe.If you dont believe , then why sling hatred at other people and try to ridicule their beliefs? If somebody were to tell me they worshiped a sun god, I wouldnt tell them thats the wrong God, even if I thought so.Politely arguing points in a discussion is fine, and healthy I think.Hate speech-no time for it.
View in discussion



Al searchinwithnoagenda a year ago
Youneed the help-you dont have a leg to stand on.
View in discussion



Al searchinwithnoagenda a year ago
The one who murdered Catholics and priests-yes him.The one who also said this.
Hitler was NOT a Christian. He hated Christianity. If he made any public remarks in support of Christianity, that was because he was in public and would lie or obfuscate to appease a crowd at times. Hitler was opposed to atheism because he was a spiritual man: “atheism… is a return to the state of the animal…” (Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 59). But opposition to atheism doesn’t make anyone a Christian. Nazism was his religion, an authentic religion of his own creation (yes, life is SO much better when people create their own personal religions in a search for “authenticity,” ha).
Hitler’s Table Talk is a compilation of sayings by Hitler in private conversations that were recorded by other Nazis. It is a good source for what Hitler really thought.
“…the only way of getting rid of Christianity is to allow it to die little by little.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 61
“It’s Christianity that’s the liar. It’s in perpetual conflict with itself.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 61
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“Kerrl, with the noblest of intentions, wanted to attempt a synthesis between National Socialism and Christianity. I don’t believe the thing’s possible, and I see the obstacle in Christianity itself.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 145
“As far as we are concerned, we’ve succeeded in chasing the Jews from our midst and excluding Christianity from our political life.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 394
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“The reason why the ancient world was so pure, light and serene was that it knew nothing of the two great scourges: the pox and Christianity. Christianity is a prototype of Bolshevism: the mobilisation by the Jew of the masses of slaves with the object of undermining society. Thus one understands that the healthy elements of the Roman world were proof against this doctrine.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 75-76
“When all is said, we have no reason to wish that the Italians and Spaniards should free themselves from the drug of Christianity. Let’s be the only people who are immunised against the disease.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 145

“Our epoch will certainly see the end of the disease of Christianity. It will last another hundred years, two hundred years perhaps. My regret will have been that I couldn’t, like whoever the prophet was, behold the promised land from afar. We are entering into a conception of the world that will be a sunny era, an era of tolerance.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 343-344

“Pure Christianity—the Christianity of the catacombs—is concerned with translating the Christian doctrine into facts. It leads quite simply to the annihilation of mankind.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 146

“Christianity is the worst of the regressions that mankind can ever have undergone, and it’s the Jew who, thanks to this diabolic invention, has thrown him back fifteen centuries.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 322

“The heaviest blow that ever struck humanity was the coming of Christianity. Bolshevism is Christianity’s illegitimate child. Both are inventions of the Jew. The deliberate lie in the matter of religion was introduced into the world by Christianity. Bolshevism practises a lie of the same nature, when it claims to bring liberty to men, whereas in reality it seeks only to enslave them. In the ancient world, the relations between men and gods were founded on an instinctive respect. It was a world enlightened by the idea of tolerance. Christianity was the first creed in the world to exterminate its adversaries in the name of love. Its key-note is intolerance.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 7

“But Christianity is an invention of sick brains : one could imagine nothing more senseless, nor any more indecent way of turning the idea of the Godhead into a mockery. A negro with his tabus is crushingly superior to the human being who seriously believes in Transubstantiation.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 144

“It took fourteen centuries for Christianity to reach the peak of savagery and stupidity.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 314

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“We must recognise, of course, that, amongst us, Christianity is coloured by Germanism.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 46

“We’ll see to it that the Churches cannot spread abroad teachings in conflict with the interests of the State. We shall continue to preach the doctrine of National Socialism, and the young will no longer be taught anything but the truth.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 62

“Christianity is a rebellion against natural law, a protest against nature. Taken to its logical extreme, Christianity would mean the systematic cultivation of the human failure.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 51

“By nature the Duce is a freethinker, but he decided to choose the path of concessions. For my part, in his place I’d have taken the path of revolution. I’d have entered the Vatican and thrown everybody out—reserving the right to apologise later: “Excuse me, it was a mistake.” But the result would have been, they’d have been outside!” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 145

“So it’s not opportune to hurl ourselves now into a struggle with the Churches. The best thing is to let Christianity die a natural death. A slow death has something comforting about it. The dogma of Christianity gets worn away before the advances of science. Religion will have to make more and more concessions. Gradually the myths crumble. All that’s left is to prove that in nature there is no frontier between the organic and the inorganic.” -Hitler’s

Table Talk, pg 59

“But, even so, it’s impossible eternally to hold humanity in bondage with lies. After all, it was only between the sixth and eighth centuries that Christianity was imposed on our peoples by princes who had an alliance of interests with the shavelings. Our peoples had previously succeeded in living all right without this religion. I have six divisions of SS composed of men absolutely indifferent in matters of religion. It doesn’t prevent them from going to their deaths with serenity in their souls.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 143

“Had Charles Martel not been victorious at Poitiers—already, you see, the world had fallen into the hands of the Jews, so gutless a thing was Christianity!—then we should in all probability have been converted to Mohammedanism, that cult which glorifies heroism and which opens the seventh Heaven to the bold warrior alone. Then the Germanic races would have conquered the world. Christianity alone prevented them from doing so.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 667 (Talk about Islamo-fascism!)

“The priests of antiquity were closer to nature, and they sought modestly for the meaning of things. Instead of that, Christianity promulgates its inconsistent dogmas and imposes them by force. Such a religion carries within it intolerance and persecution. It’s the bloodiest conceivable.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 322-323

“One cannot succeed in conceiving how much cruelty, ignominy and falsehood the intrusion of Christianity has spelt for this world of ours. If the misdeeds of Christianity were less serious in Italy, that’s because the people of Rome, having seen them at work, always knew exactly the worth of the Popes before whom Christendom prostrated itself.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 288

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“When understanding of the universe has become widespread, when the majority of men know that the stars are not sources of light but worlds, perhaps inhabited worlds like ours, then the Christian doctrine will be convicted of absurdity.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 59

“The fact that the Japanese have retained their political philosophy, which is one of the essential reasons for their successes, is due to their having been saved in time from the views of Christianity.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 393

“This terrorism in religion is the product, to put it briefly, of a Jewish dogma, which Christianity has universalised and whose effect is to sow trouble and confusion in men’s minds.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 393

“It may be asked whether concluding a concordat with the churches wouldn’t facilitate our exercise of power…. I’m convinced that any pact with the Church can offer only a provisional benefit, for sooner or later the scientific spirit will disclose the harmful character of such a compromise. Thus the State will have based its existence on a foundation that one day will collapse.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pp. 58-59

“It is to these private customs that peoples owe their present characters. Christianity, of course, has reached the peak of absurdity in this respect. And that’s why one day its structure will collapse. Science has already impregnated humanity. Consequently, the more Christianity clings to its dogmas, the quicker it will decline.” -Hitler’s Table Talk, pg 60

View in discussion



Al summerbreeze a year ago

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Are these the words of a Christian, or an atheist?
View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
Criticism is far from what your site offers,and no it doesnt have to be violent to be a hate crime.Hate speech is a hate crime.Look it up

View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
So Muslims wanted the bible to be true, so they let the united nations make Israel by taking away thier land? WOw! Even the Muslims wanted to believe in it so bad they let it happen!
View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
An attack against a persons beliefs are an attack.A discussion is altogether different.Spreading hatred against a person, or a group, based on sex, race, religion, etc… are hate crimes.Would you like the wikipedia version or the UN one? Its in many laws and constitutions throughout most free countries, but perhaps you live in a part of the world which doesnt have those laws?
You dont seem able to deal with the reality that this isnt just a support group, its a site promoting religious intolerance and hatred to people of faith.Those are facts, not ideas.
View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
Why do you want questions when you dont want the answers?You ask for proof of prophesies, yet you have decided to hate religion.Why do you want me to show you something you have no intention off seeing?
View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
No, I only defended my faith because it was attacked, not respected, nor even tolerated.Religious intolerance. Like ISIS, just without the violence.
View in discussion
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Al Ubi Dubium a year ago

How about the return of Israel, predicted to the year , thousands of years earlier-thats better I would say.

View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago

Is that what you think evil is, “shit happens”? If you are nothing but a bundle of energy, then there is no such thing as good or evil.If there is, what atoms are the evil ones?

View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago

It was not my intention to evangelize.It never is.I only came in with the hope of comforting somebody who looked beat up by a bad understanding of God.It was never my intention to re-convert him, or anyone.That is why I said ".Whatever life brings you, I hope you the best, and you should live with joy and happiness, always assuming this is your last month on earth. ~carpe diem~ (seize the day)"

Shortly after that I am attacked by “your” people.I am tolerant of all people and all faiths, not the case of people here though.I work with atheists, Sikh’s, Muslims, and agnostics.We all accept each others different views on religion, and nobody hates on anyone else ‘s beliefs. Thats religious intolerance, and also a hate crime.

Seems your okay with preaching against Christianity, so what you are really saying is that “this is a board where we all talk hate about the bible, and all the Christians”

View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago

So Jesus being crucified centuries earlier, was written after He died?

View in discussion


Al searchinwithnoagenda a year ago
As I recently posted, the destruction of Jerusalem is one-in Matthew 24.Happened in about ad 70?
View in discussion

Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
Sorry but I cant explain the bible in a quick response.Jesus paid a debt He didn’t owe, because we owed a debt we couldn’t pay.
View in discussion

Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
You mean where in Mathew 24 Jesus talked about the destruction of Jerusalem? That prophesy?How it talked of plagues and famine?About the false Christs? About spreading the gospel through the world?About the many false prophets? About the persecution of Jesus followers?
All of them happened after Jesus death(another prophesy He told in Mathew 23), and are supported by history.
Sorry but I cant respond to multiple questions by everybody at the same time.But I did show you one prophesy you can check out, unless you dont believe in history?
View in discussion

Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
Not to worry-I have my sin, as we all do.If we could obey the laws , then there would be no need for Jesus sacrifice.
View in discussion

Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
No, the ceremonial laws, Jesus did away with. He said the people obeyed those, yet did not follow the weightier ones.Paul, as I have said, did not

preach a different gospel, nor did he claim to.
View in discussion



Al Guest a year ago
Well what good is money when I die?
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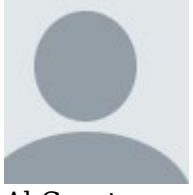
Al Guest a year ago
Thanks for the info.I am not familiar with his stuff. I am glad you are so passionate about your faith, and you seem genuinely happy.I hope your medical condition gets better.
~cheers~
1 View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
No I havent read that.But I saw the minority report-was it similar to that idea?
View in discussion



Al summerbreeze a year ago
not what He asks for at all
View in discussion



Al Guest a year ago
It doesnt teach people to hate their families, but it shows the truth that people would listen to Jesus words yet not hear.
View in discussion



Al Thackerie a year ago

yet you are the one filled with slander and anger-but I only offer you my best wishes and I hope you can come to accept all people someday

View in discussion



Al undercover agnostic a year ago

Sorry, but I didnt know Christians werent allowed.Is it like a support group for people who hate religion?I was looking up something on google and stumbled in to here.I saw a post that I could relate to, about somebody who was lost and hurt, and left God.I decided to try and shed some light on a few things that he saw wrong. Like assuming that having one error of sin sends a man to hell, when God has given us free will and let loose the devil in this world.Of course thats not the case, and any man can be forgiven of any crime (except one).

If you look at my last reply, you ca see that I cared for the poster (illu minati), and my last statement was this…"You are not wrong for questioning many things about the bible, and we
are all called to test our faith.Whatever life brings you, I hope you
the best, and you should live with joy and happiness, always assuming
this is your last month on earth.
~carpe diem~ (seize the day)"

Upon entering this forum though, I see a difference in the majority of non-believers. What I get is a seething anger, and hatred of anyone who is a Christian.Swearing, cursing, derogatory remarks about my religion, my God, and the people I love.

THIS is the hatred that murdered tens of millions of people in the last 100 years.It is in no way different from the crusades, the inquisitions,the burnings at the stake and drownings done by Calvin, the gas chambers of Hitler, the starvation tactics of Lenin and Stalin. Do you see the similarity between all those murderers? There are two common traits they both have.

1) EVIL
2) RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE

Do you see what I am saying? Within religion there are many who do evil and justify it as "righteousness". There are others , non-religious people, who do the same thing.

Religious intolerance also includes a hatred to people who aren't religious. This is why I chose to become a Christian, because I believe in what Jesus taught.To love all people, even your enemy.To live in peace with all people whenever possible.To feed the poor, to clothe the poor, to love even the unloveable.To live in moderation, to not be worldly and covet materialistic things, to not hate, to not kill.

Instead it asks me to offer my body as a living sacrifice-holy and pleasing to the Lord-this is my reasonable act of service.
View in discussion



Al searchinwithnoagenda a year ago
You mean proof that my God is the right God?Like prophesy?
View in discussion



Al searchinwithnoagenda a year ago
Really? You went into a Christian bookstore and there were books claiming divine insight? Wow thats never happened, but doesnt the bible say that those things must be tested? Yes it does!
As I have already said, John Calvin claimed that. He said that Jesus died only for the elect-a certain group that God chose to save(which isnt most, or even many, but few).The bible says that Jesus died for all mankind, but acknowledges that few freely choose to be followers.Calvin says that Gods grace is irresistable, but the bible says that even the righteous can sin.Calvin claims that grace was given to only the elect, yet the bible says that the grace that brings salvation has appeared to all mankind.
But putting theory aside, how did Calvin live? Did he follow what the bible said or the opposite?
Calvin forced all people to be baptised at birth because(according to him), this is how a person gets saved.Anyone disagreeing with his “divine interpretation”, was either tortured or burned at the stake. Anyone who baptised themselves upon acceptance of Jesus, was drowned(if they had been baptised at birth).He also had deacons who were much like the Nazi youth, who had the power to enter any home for signs of treason , or heresy(according to what Calvin considered heresy), which was basically saying what the bible said about baptism, or grace.
Seeing a problem with not testing somebody’s claim to divine interpretation? Same goes for the pope, and thats why having a Pope, who is claimed infallible , is dangerous.
View in discussion



Al undercover agnostic a year ago
The old testament wasnt hard to read for those people, because they knew the language, and understood customs of those days.But people are like lawyers, similar to people here.They look for loopholes, ways around Gods purpose in

His laws.That is why Jesus called many of the Jews hypocrites.It wasnt that they didnt have the law, they simply found ways around it.
For instance, if you hated a person, you could simply imply to a person who wasnt a believer of God, that you would find it easy to compensate a person with a certain amount of money if “so and so” were to be killed .Technically you havent killed him.
That is why prophesy said Jesus would “magnify the laws and make them righteous.”That is what it means when Jesus fulfilled the laws, He topped them up, added to them, made them full.He didnt do away with them.
Now do you see how Jesus says that if a man hates another man, he is guilty of murder.Same goes for adultery, its no longer just the act of doing it, but the source of it.The heart and mind of a person.
This is why, through the grace of God, he changes the heart and mind of those who love and accept Gods laws, rules, and authority.
View in discussion



Al undercover agnostic a year ago
Thou shalt not kill.Is your brain hurting from that translation? Do you claim that those things are impossible? When it comes to prophesy, do you think those translations are aesy?
View in discussion
Discussion on ExChristian.Net — encouraging ex-Christians 269 comments

Why I’m a misotheist ~ ExChristian.Net



Al searchinwithnoagenda a year ago
See my above post.
View in discussion



Al Guest a year ago
Understanding the bible totally, and knowing Gods laws are entirely different .
“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.
No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, ‘Know the LORD,’ because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest,” declares the LORD. “For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more.”
Do you claim that killing is ok or is it wrong?

View in discussion



Al Guest a year ago
No i claim that trnslating His word into different languages can be misleading-same goes for what Paul talked about.But you dont need what Paul said, only what Jesus said.That is why He spoke in parables.
View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
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View in discussion



Al Ubi Dubium a year ago
Thats true
View in discussion



Al Guest a year ago
The fall of man isnt a matter of eating fruit from the wrong tree, it was a matter that man wanted to be his own God, able to do whatever he felt was right. Thats still the case, and the same reason Satan, (once the most highly regarded angel), is now king of Hades.
The torture of Jesus was done by men, blood sacrifices are to show the seriousness of sin, which is death.
View in discussion



Al summerbreeze a year ago
So Hitler, Charles Manson, etc..also claim to be made just as God wanted.If God wanted robots, He would have made them, but He gives you free will.
View in discussion



Al boomSLANG a year ago
No, anyone can be saved. You simply choose where you will spend eternity. With Him and His followers, or away from Him and all Christians. Cant you see that He gives you exactly what you want, despite what He wants?
View in discussion



Al Guest a year ago
I argue and debate with atheists. I dont agree with homosexuality and it makes me uncomfortable, but as the bible says, I try to love all people and live in peace with everyone whenever possible.Feminism has been around since before I was born so I was brought up with it. The bible is not pro rape or pro slavery.And you talk about slavery like it is something done way back when. It still is being done-even in the US.Arent there millions of Mexicans working without health and welfare benefits in the USA? Nobody really wants them to go though, because they are useful and cheap labor. Myanmar has some brutal slavery going on. How many women are burned alive in Pakistan and India because their husbands don’t want them anymore, nor do they want others to have them. I can go on, and on abut the injustices going on right now.Are you active against them too, or is your hatred just of Christians?
View in discussion



Al Dan Forsman a year ago
Many aren’t aware of it wasn’t taught in my school growing up either. My grandparents were Mennonites living in Russia until about 1924.Starvation was a tool used by both Lenin and Stalin, but other methods were used too.It was whitewashed as a “famine”, yet many Christian communities were ordered to stockpile thier wheat and crops in the middle of the villages, or by the railways (if they had them). The town was systematically starved to death while the grain or supplies went to waste. There was, in fact, no shortage of

food in those years, it just didnt get to certain people.This was seen as the most effective way to “convert” people .Lenin felt that censorship, and forced education would be both too slow, and would be fought against in the long run.