

# Lion and Lamb Apologetics'

## Classic Articles & Resources on So-Called Progressive Christianity

VARIOUS AUTHORS

1

**Progressive Christianity** is a heretical group which deny many basic tenets of Christian orthodoxy. The name "progressive Christianity" is what they call themselves and so we only use the phrase to identify which group to avoid. No legitimacy implied when using the term "Christianity."

Rather than seeing it as a necessary fruit of the gospel, *Progressive Christians believe that social justice is the heart of the Gospel. In many ways it is not unlike liberation theology.* Rather than having a set of confessional beliefs about God or the person of Jesus, and what He has accomplished for us, Progressive Christianity is inherently **transformation-centric**, focusing on how one's spiritual practice transforms our life, and the life of all aspects of community. They claim to be opposed to dogmas, but, ironically, seem comfortable having many dogmas of their own. The Progressive Christian Alliance puts it this way: "Faith is not about concrete answers, religious absolutes, creeds, or dogma." *As such they look to Jesus more as an example to follow, rather than as a Savior from God's wrath and our own intractable moral depravity. This has led to a rejection of the doctrine of substitutionary atonement. Thus the progressive idea is premised on the false notion that human beings have a changeable nature and thus is able to achieve redemption through human efforts during his time on earth.*

They often make the false dichotomy that they are "trading dogma for love" even though the bible never separates the two: Paul said, "I urged you ... so that you may charge certain persons **not to teach any different doctrine ... The aim of our charge is love** that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith." (1 Tim 1:3,5)

*Progressive Christianity* encourages the exploration of the implications of critical biblical scholarship and the emerging proposals of contemporary liberal theologians and scholars. It explores **alternatives** to traditional religious beliefs and practices and **new ways** to understand religious faith. This has led to Progressive Christians acceptance within the church, of many non-biblical practices, such as homosexual relationships:

**Observation:** So-called progressive Christianity is largely moralistic, downplaying regeneration and the work of Christ in salvation from sin. In many ways it is just a political lobby. Politics and the values of contemporary culture drives most of their

# Lion and Lamb Apologetics'

theology. To many Progressive Christians, politics is all-important and so, they think, human beings can be redeemed through implementing social justice. Apart from politics, their movement would likely fall apart in a week. Progressive Christians rightly view [Christian nationalism as a heresy](#), but, ironically, seem blind to the obvious fact that they are really the left-winged equivalent of Christian Nationalism - cut from the same cloth -- but instead of being right-winged nationalists, they are leftist/globalists. As Paul warned the Galatians,

*“I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you by the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel – which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let him be eternally condemned! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let him be eternally condemned!”*

In contrast to the practice of so-called progressive Christians, the bible, theology and the rich heritage of Christians through the ages, informs the passion, devotion and thinking of those in Christ in all areas of life. Politics is merely one small part of what that theology informs. The life of the movement is ultimately not dependent on who is in power or what political policies are in place. Theological conservatives believe that God has ordained government and will vote with a biblically informed conscience (if they live in a democracy) and may feel very strongly about what are just policies, but the kingdom of God advances regardless of the policies in place or outcome of elections. Historic Christianity has traditionally made a point to serve the poor and love neighbors. We need not abandon the faith once delivered to the saints to continue doing so.

Progressive Christians believe we can fix ourselves if we just follow the MORAL EXAMPLE of Jesus. Their gospel is more about what we do that what Christ has done. In a word: moralism.

The Bible teaches, rather, that we are way beyond saving or fixing ourselves, because humanity is hopelessly captive to sin's tyranny (Matt 5:3, 1 Cor 2:14). So we affirm that Jesus came not to teach us how to become a better you, but as the SAVIOR to liberate the captives. We don't need to simply repair the old house, but need Jesus to tear it down and build a new one (John 3:3, 5) . He came to grant His people new life and set them free to walk as He walked to honor God and for the good of our neighbor.

These are two radically different views of the condition of humanity.

# Lion and Lamb Apologetics

PC denies the doctrine of eternal punishment and the substitutionary atonement of Christ. The following discussion regarding hell on [Rachel Held Evan's twitter feed](#) is a solid example of how far and wide so-called progressive Christians have left reality, truth and love behind

They seem to have forgotten that God is holy, just and loving. He cannot be unholy or unjust, even a little, or He would no longer be God. Approaching Him in our sin would be like trying to approach within a few miles of 1000 supernovas without getting scorched. These theological liberals think God need only wave his hand to forgive sin without justice being paid. But someone has to pay. That is why God Himself came in the flesh, to absorb the full brunt of God's own justice in the stead of sinners. That is love, a willingness to die for your sworn enemy. If no one pays for sin and God simply forgives that would call into question His justice.

Progressive Christians only think of God in human terms that satisfy human wisdom and question how he can torture someone for eternity. This line of thinking profoundly misapprehends the very nature of God and makes him into in idol.

*Presented here are 113 resources on So-Called Progressive Christianity that are available online. Included are web pages, mp3 audio files and mp4 video files. Originally posted on Monergism.org and are highly recommended!*

**Related Resources:** [Liberal Theology - Pluralism & Relativism](#) - [The Emerging Church](#)

- \* [What is "Progressive" Christianity?](#)  
*Web Page by Michael J Kruger*
- \* [Progressive Christianity: A Biblical Response](#)  
*Video by Michael J Kruger*
- \* [The Progressive Evangelical Package](#)  
*Web Page by Derek Rishmawy*
- \* [The Theological Legacy of Rachel Held Evans](#)  
*Web Page by Anne Kennedy*
- \* [Activist Theology \(YouTube\)](#)  
*Video by Virgil Walker, Darrell B. Harrison*

# Lion and Lamb Apologetics

- ✳ **[Progressive Christians: Where and How They Differ with Jesus](#)**  
*Web Page by Colton Hinson*
- ✳ **[Historic Biblical Christianity & Contemporary Progressive Christianity](#)**  
*Web Page by Dr Harry L Reeder III*
- ✳ **[3 Surprises from New Research on 'Progressive' and 'Conservative' Christians](#)**  
*Web Page by Trevin Wax*
- ✳ **[The Religion of Progressivism](#)**  
*Web Page by Craig Carter*
- ✳ **[Progressive Christians Love THIS Fallacy](#)**  
*Video by Curated Resources*
- ✳ **[8 Points of Progressive Christianity](#)**  
*Video by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **[Is Richard Rohr's 'Universal Christ' Christian?](#)**  
*Web Page by Ian Paul*
- ✳ **[Gen Z's Questions About Christianity: The Bible's Authority](#)**  
*Web Page by Michael J Kruger*
- ✳ **[Seven Characteristics of Liberal Theology](#)**  
*Web Page by Kevin DeYoung*
- ✳ **[What Is "Progressive Christianity" and Why Should You Beware of It?](#)**  
*Web Page by Roger Olson*
- ✳ **[Progressive Christianity is as Much of a Threat to Your Kids' Faith as Atheism](#)**  
*Web Page by Natasha Crain*
- ✳ **[Progressive Christianity](#)**  
*Web Page by Bill Muehlenberg*
- ✳ **[Is "Progressive Christianity" Christian?](#)**  
*Web Page by Mark McGee*
- ✳ **[Bart Campolo says progressive Christians turn into atheists. Maybe he's right](#)**  
*Web Page by Sam Hailes*
- ✳ **[Rob Bell, Fundamentalist: 5 Ironies from the New Bell Film](#)**  
*Web Page by Owen Strachan*
- ✳ **[Leaders of the So-Called Progressive Christian Movement](#)**  
*Web Page by from Wikipedia*

# Lion and Lamb Apologetics

- ✳ **[The Spiritual and Moral Bankruptcy of 'Progressive' Christianity](#)**  
*Web Page by Michael Brown*
- ✳ **[Revisiting the Progressive Evangelical Package](#)**  
*Web Page by Derek Rishmawy*
- ✳ **[The True Legacy of Rachel Held Evans](#)**  
*Web Page by Grayson Gilbert*
- ✳ **[The Serious Problems with Being a Red-letter Christian](#)**  
*Web Page by Ian Paul*
- ✳ **[Disassociating Paul from Jesus](#)**  
*Web Page by Nicholas T Batzig*
- ✳ **[Why Are Progressive Christians Attracted to Universalism?: How a Distorted View of God Distorts Our View of Good](#)**  
*Web Page by Scott Smith*
- ✳ **[Postmodernism Destroyed His Church](#)**  
*Web Page by Rod Dreher*
- ✳ **[Jonathan Merritt Uses Slavery as a Cover for Slander \(MP3\)](#)**  
*Audio/MP3 by James White*
- ✳ **[Why Progressive Christianity is a dangerous false gospel](#)**  
*Video by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **[The Ten Commandments of Progressive Christianity \(Podcast\)](#)**  
*Audio/MP3 by Michael J Kruger*
- ✳ **[Progressive Christianity is Dangerous](#)**  
*Video by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **[Is Your Church Drifting into Progressive Theology?](#)**  
*Video by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **[Why Progressive Christianity Can't Bring Reformation](#)**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **[Remaining Faithful When Others Embrace LGBTQ+ Theology](#)**  
*Web Page by John Freeman*
- ✳ **[Review: Sinners in the Hands of a Loving God – Brian Zahnd](#)**  
*Web Page by David Steele*
- ✳ **[What Sets Progressive Christianity Apart from Historic Christianity? With David Young](#)**  
*Video by Alisa Childers*

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- \* **Faith After Deconstruction: Audio Adrenaline's Dave Stovall Shares What Brought Him Back**  
*Video by Alisa Childers*
- \* **The Salami Tactics that lead to a Church Without Christianity**  
*Web Page by David Robertson*
- \* **Jen Hatmaker, Judging the Fruit, and the True Nature of Deception**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*
- \* **Academics Shine a Critical Light on Progressive Christians**  
*Web Page by Curated Resources*
- \* **Is Uncertainty a Virtue**  
*Web Page by Samuel Rutherford*
- \* **Deconstructing Deconstructionism**  
*Web Page by Nicholas T Batzig*
- \* **What Does 'Deconstruction' Even Mean?**  
*Web Page by Jon Bloom*
- \* **Everything You Need to Know About the Evangelical Deconstruction Project**  
*Video by Neil Shenoi*
- \* **My Reconstructed Faith**  
*Web Page by Philip Ryken*
- \* **Brian McLaren, A New Kind of Christianity, Introduction**  
*Web Page by Mike Wittmer*
- \* **Why Evangelicalism is So Misunderstood by Rachel Held Evans and the Religious Left**  
*Web Page by Chelsen Vicari*
- \* **Rachel Held Evans: A Wolf in Sheeps Clothing**  
*Web Page by Summer Pinch*
- \* **Bad News for the Good News - a response to Steve Chalke**  
*Web Page by David Robertson*
- \* **The Logic of Peace: Rachel Held Evans vs. Paul the Apostle**  
*Web Page by Aaron Shafovaloff*
- \* **Why Abraham Was Right: A Reply to Rachel Held Evans**  
*Web Page by Rick Phillips*
- \* **Here's How the New Christian Left is Twisting the Gospel**  
*Web Page by Chelsen Vicari*

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✳ **Sorry, Jen Hatmaker: Christians Aren't Complicit in Orlando**

*Web Page by Derryck Green*

✳ **Progressive Denominations Racing toward Servitude**

*Web Page by Mateen A Elass*

✳ **Progressive Christians to "Take Back Their Faith" After Election**

*Web Page by Derryck Green*

✳ **Can You Be Progressive and Intolerant?**

*Web Page by D G Hart*

✳ **The inevitable progress of progressivism**

*Web Page by Todd Pruit*

✳ **The Economic Fallacies of Progressive Christianity**

*Web Page by David French*

✳ **How to be a Progressive, Affirming, Accepting, Welcoming... and BIBLICAL church**

*Web Page by David Robertson*

✳ **Kirsten Powers Gets Its Dangerously Wrong on the Bible and Homosexuality**

*Web Page by Rev Michael Brown*

✳ **5 Areas Where Progressive Christian Culture Completely Loses Me**

*Web Page by Benjamin L. Corey*

✳ **New "Progressive Christianity": An Old Liberal Swindle**

*Web Page by Peter Jones*

✳ **A New Kind of Christianity**

*Web Page by Tim Challies*

✳ **5 Signs Your Church Might be Heading Toward Progressive Christianity**

*Web Page by Alisa Childers*

✳ **A Different Gospel?**

*Web Page by Douglas S. Winnail*

✳ **The Progressive Christian Fallacy – Sin Rationalizing**

*Web Page by Pulpit Commentary*

✳ **Progressive Theology**

*Web Page by C H Spurgeon*

✳ **Imagine There's No Hell**

*Web Page by Nicholas T Batzig*

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- ✳ **The Third Day He Rose Again From the Dead**  
*Web Page by Joel Wood*
- ✳ **The New Evangelical Social Gospel - A Critique (eBook)**  
*Web Page by Roger Smalling*
- ✳ **Christianity and Liberalism: Still Different Religions**  
*Web Page by Samuel James*
- ✳ **The Gospel According to Progressive Christianity: Is it Really Good News?**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **The Gospel According to Progressive Christianity: Is it Really Good News?**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **The Gospel According to Progressive Christianity #2: Creation and Fall**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **3 Beliefs Some Progressive Christians and Atheists Share**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **A Religion of Activism**  
*Web Page by Alexander Riley*
- ✳ **Progressive Christianity and Three Ideas That Can Lead to Outright Unbelief**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*
- ✳ **'Woke' is the New 'Saved'**  
*Web Page by Peter Zmirak*
- ✳ **Progressive Christianity (and How to Spot It)**  
*Web Page by Lindsey Medemwaldt*
- ✳ **What is Progressive Christianity, and is it biblical?**  
*Web Page by Got Questions*
- ✳ **The Horror of a Different Jesus**  
*Web Page by Sam Storms*
- ✳ **Rachel Evans Twisted Scripture Part 1**  
*Video by Polite Leader*
- ✳ **Rachel Held Evans Twisted Scripture Part 2**  
*Video by Polite Leader*
- ✳ **Max Lucado's Endorsement of Jen Hatmaker: What it Means and Why it Matters**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*



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- \* **'Progressive' Churches Return to Seeker-Sensitive Model**  
*Web Page by Dustin Messer*
- \* **Rodgers's Rules**  
*Web Page by Derek Rishmawy*
- \* **'Progressive' Christianity: Even Shallower Than the Evangelical Faith I Left**  
*Web Page by Ian Harber*
- \* **'American Gospel: Christ Crucified': What Progressives Miss About the Gospel**  
*Web Page by Caleb Wait*
- \* **The De-conversion of Saruman: Five Lessons to Learn**  
*Web Page by Michael J Kruger*
- \* **Navigating Conversations with Progressive Christians**  
*Video by Gregory Koukl, Alisa Childers*
- \* **A Progressive Christian's Reconstruction, With Ian Harber**  
*Video by Alisa Childers*
- \* **Jen Hatmaker and the Made-to-Order Gospel**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*
- \* **Progressive Christianity: Another Gospel**  
*Audio/MP3 by Alisa Childers*
- \* **How Progressive Christianity Preaches Another Gospel**  
*Web Page by Ian Harber*
- \* **Here's Why Christians Should Avoid the Teachings of Richard Rohr**  
*Web Page by Alisa Childers*
- \* **The PCA's Very Slippery Slope: Progressivism, Theological Liberalism, & the Gay Pastor**  
*Web Page by Jon Payne*
- \* **This Neo-liberalism is Worse than Neo-Orthodoxy**  
*Web Page by Dewey Roberts*
- \* **Progressive Ideology and the Hijacking of the Christian Faith**  
*Web Page by Frank Turek*
- \* **Progressive Christianity and Deconstructing the Faith**  
*Web Page by Thaddeus Maharaj*
- \* **Dogmatic dangers: Liberal Christians punish harshly what they consider apostasy**  
*Web Page by Janie B. Cheaney*

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\* **[How to Talk to Progressive Christians \(Part 1\)](#)**

*Video by Gregory Koukl*

\* **[How to Talk to Progressive Christians \(Part 2\)](#)**

*Video by Greg Koukl*

\* **[Embarrassed by the Gospel](#)**

*Web Page by Carl Trueman*

\* **[Jen Hatmaker and Jesus](#)**

*Web Page by Anne Kennedy*

\* **[Jen Hatmaker quits “church” and invites you to join her](#)**

*Web Page by Curated Resources*

\* **[Woke Theology: A Secular Version of Postmillennialism, Covenantalism, and Theonomy](#)**

*Web Page by John Ball*

\* **[Defending Sound Doctrine Against the Deconstruction of American Evangelicalism](#)**

*Web Page by Jonathan Leeman*

\* **[Is Deconstruction the Same as Deconversion? A Few Reflections on Reforming the Church](#)**

*Web Page by Michael J Kruger*

\* **[Jesus and John Wayne among the Deplorables](#)**

*Web Page by Curated Resources*

\* **[Why Progressivism is Inherently Religious](#)**

*Web Page by Curated Resources*

\* **[What is progressive Christianity? \(YouTube\)](#)**

*Video by Michael J Kruger*

\* **[When ‘Gospel-Centeredness’ Becomes a Cover for Idolatry](#)**

*Web Page by Curated Resources*

<https://www.monergism.com/topics/bad-theology/progressive-christianity> Retrieved August 3, 2022.