

CHRISTIANITY 101

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BRINGING CHRISTIANS
BACK TO THE BASICS

BY: MIKE & DONNA O'BRIEN

BOTH MIKE & DONNA WERE BORN IN TORONTO IN 1951. THEY ALSO BOTH RECEIVED JESUS AS THEIR LORD AND SAVIOUR IN 1975.

MIKE & DONNA HAVE BEEN MINISTRERING TO CHURCHES AND PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD AND THROUGH THAT HAVE SEEN MANY INSTANCES WHERE THE BASIC CHRISTIAN PRINCIPLES (101) WERE SO DESPERATELY NEEDED, AND WOULD HAVE HELPED SOLVED MANY PROBLEMS FOR PEOPLE.

BECAUSE OF THIS THEY FELT IT VERY NECESSARY TO WRITE THIS BOOK.

IT IS A GUIDE, AND STARTING POINT AND A REFRESHER COURSE, ALL IN ONE.

GO BACK TO THE BASICS, AND LET GOD'S WORD BE TRUE IN YOUR LIFE.

**IN LOVE AND PRAYERS
MIKE & DONNA O'BRIEN**

CHRISTIANITY 101

As a Christian you are automatically the righteousness of God in Christ. You are not just half saved or three quarters saved. It's like being born a man you can not change it if you're a man, you're a man or if you are born a woman you are a woman.

John 3:16 – “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son”

Jesus did not have to die. But, He did it for you because He wanted to. Let us not insult Him by only believing that He only accomplished a part of what He came to this planet to do.

Just before he died He said, ***“It is finished”*** in ***John 19:30***.

2 Cor. 5:21 talks about substitution and identification. ***“He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”*** Righteousness means.... being able to stand in the presence of our Holy God without any sense of shame, guilt, fear or condemnation. Why? Only because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. You are a new creation according to ***2 Cor.5:17***.

You have already been judged righteousness. Righteous means.... ‘Right Standing with God.’

Luke 10:18-20 (amplified)

“18 And He said to them, I saw Satan falling like a lightning [flash] from heaven. 19 Behold! I have given you authority and power to trample upon serpents and scorpions, and [physical and mental strength and ability] over all the power that the enemy [possesses]; and nothing shall in any way harm you. 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are enrolled in heaven.”

You are everything that the Lord says that you are.
Let's use the example of healing.

1) *Isaiah 53:4-5 “4 Surely He has borne our grief's and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. 5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”*

2) *Matt. 8:17 “17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: “He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.”*

3) *1 Peter 2:24 “24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes we were healed.”*

4) Deut. 28:61 “61 Also every sickness and every plague, which is not written in this Book of the Law, will the Lord bring upon you until you are destroyed.”

5) Gal. 3:13-14 “13 Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree”), 14 that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.”

In Hell all the sicknesses and all the diseases will still be a part of the people who have not accepted Christ. You may not have the physical body that we have today but the mental anguish and the sorrow as well as pain, tears, fears etc. will all be there for eternity.

People who do not accept Christ will eventually end up in the Lake of Fire where there will be torment day and night forever.

Rev. 20:10-15

“10 The devil, who deceived them, was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone where the beast and the false prophet are. And they will be tormented day and night forever and ever. 11 Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. 12 And I saw the

dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. 13 The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. 14 Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. 15 And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”

Let's contrast these verses with – Rev. 21:1-8 that speaks of how those that are thirsty for the things of God and overcomes shall inherit all things. God will wipe away every tear and there will be no more death or sorrow or pain.

HOLLYWOOD is always promoting movies and talking about – just crossing over. They make it look like there will be friends and fun. This has been desensitising many, many people. We are eternal beings. We will spend eternity either in heaven or hell and believe me eternal torment in hell will be NO party no matter what friends may be there with you.

COMING OF APOSTACY

2 Tim. 3:1-5 “But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: 2 For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient

to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, 4 traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away!”

*The stage is set for Christ's' 2nd coming.

V5 – Having a form of godliness, but denying its power, and from such people turn away.

These people belong to our local churches. They have their faith in their church. Their religion is in their denomination. But they are destitute of the life of God in their souls. Don't imitate them, have no fellowship with them because they are very dangerous.

Rev. 2 & 3 talks about the 7 churches. It talks about knowing their works, tribulation, poverty and love but that they have left their first love (the Lord Jesus), that there is sexual immorality in their churches, that they let Jezebel teach and seduce in their churches and that they are neither hot or cold and that He (the Lord) will vomit them out of His mouth. We do **NOT** want to be like this.

Christians must examine and test and evaluate yourselves as to whether you are “Holding” to your faith.

2 Cor. 13:5-6 5 “Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you are disqualified. 6 But I trust that you will know that we are not disqualified.”

Being a Christian is a major responsibility.

1 John 4:17-We are to be bold and as He is so are we to be in this world.

Eph. 5:1-We are to imitate God.

Mark 3 talks about a kingdom divided against itself will fall and Satan knows this and will do whatever he can to cause fighting & offence & gossip amongst brothers and sisters in the Lord to divide us.

Pressure will come – John 16:33

In the world you will have tribulation so we need to establish ourselves in the faith a.s.a.p.

You have an enemy – but know that one of the greatest victories you will ever experience over the enemy is not to give him what he needs to succeed against you.

As a Christian I do know that you can be rebellious and disobedient and know what you're doing is wrong but yet continue to do it while at the same time you can love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind and strength.

We have the 10 Commandments:

- 1) You shall have no other gods before Me.
- 2) You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
- 3) You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
- 4) Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- 5) Honour your father and your mother.
- 6) You shall not murder.
- 7) You shall not commit adultery.
- 8) You shall not steal.
- 9) You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
- 10) You shall not covet.

But, in the New Testament if we keep the following 2 laws in ***Mark 12:30-31 (amplified)*** we will fulfill all 10 that are in the Old Testament.

“30 And you shall love the Lord your God out of and with your whole heart and out of and with all your soul (your life) and out of and with all your mind (with your faculty of thought and your moral understanding) and out of and with all your strength. This is the first and principal commandment. 31 The second is like it and is this; You shall love your neighbour as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these.”

These 2 commandments are condensed from Exodus 20: 3,4,7,8, 12-17.

There will be no stopping the devil until you get rid of the material that you give him to build a case against you. The devil will pick you off if you let him. Be strong in the Lord and receive His instructions for your life – It’s very difficult for weak Christians to receive the Lords instructions for their life – and even if they do they won’t know what to do with them. Many Christians receive vision and direction but never have it come to pass in their life – “so sad”.

The Lord wants you to live it out, **“HIS PLAN FOR YOU.”**

Christ is not an add on to what you already have “nor” is He **“a”** way **He is the only way to God. *John 14:6*** (Not J.W. or C.S. or New Age or Humanism or Universalism etc...) He didn’t leave us alone. He gave us a helper, Holy Spirit, to live with us forever.

Remember.... Nickodemus/the woman at the well/Pharisees or anyone else including the people of the Old Testament were not born again. Jesus had not gone to the cross yet.

The new birth implies the renewing of the whole soul in righteousness and true holiness. It is not a matter that you can do away with. Heaven is a place of holiness and nothing except what is holy can enter into it. ***1 Peter 1:16 “Be ye holy for I am holy.”***

John 3:3-5 &7-Jesus is telling Nickodemus he must be born again by water & Spirit.

John 4:23-24-This takes place after being born again to be able to worship Him in spirit and truth.

John 7:37-39-Jesus goes first to make a way then Holy Spirit came to us.

John 14:6-He is the only way.

Col. 1:18-He (Jesus) is the firstborn from the dead.

John 14:26-Holy Spirit takes Jesus place and can be everywhere at the same time. Jesus was restricted to His body. Jesus promises us the Holy Spirit which is: **The Promise of Our Father.**

When does Holy Spirit come?

Our answer is in **Acts 2:1-4 (amplified)**

“And when the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all assembled together in one place, 2 When suddenly there came a sound from heaven like the rushing of a violent tempest blast, and it filled the whole house in which they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues resembling fire, which were separated and distributed and which settled on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled (diffused throughout their souls) with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other (different, foreign) languages (tongues), as the Spirit kept giving them clear and loud expression [in each tongue in appropriate words].”

When we were pastoring in Quebec on a cold winter night in 1999 during a Holy Ghost revival meeting the fire department came with their big fire truck because they saw smoke and flames coming from the top of our building. But, there was NO fire only the fire of the Holy Spirit. These things did not stop happening 2000 years ago. They are still happening today.

THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP

“Dig deep ‘INTO’ the Rock Christ”

Luke 6: 46-49

“46 But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say? 47 Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. 49 But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”

Luke 9:23-26 The Cross gives power to follow Him (obedience).

Luke 9:57-62

“57 Now it happened as they journeyed on the road, that someone said to Him, “Lord, I will follow You wherever You go.” 58 And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.” 59 Then He said to another, “Follow Me.” But he said, “Lord, let me first go and bury my father.” 60 Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and preach the kingdom of God.” 61 And another also said, “Lord, I will follow You, but let me first go and bid them farewell who are at my house.” 62 But Jesus said to him, “No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”

V57, 58 – The first man.

Jesus asked if he was willing to live as Jesus did if called upon. This guy could have had the wrong motive – power/position because he saw miracles. (This is very common also today.)

V59, 60 – The second man.

59 – Jesus asked him to follow Him but he wanted to wait until his father died (then bury him.)

60 – But Jesus said let the spiritually dead bury the naturally dead. I would like you to preach the kingdom of God.

V61, 62 – The third man.

This man said to Jesus, ‘I will follow you’ BUT

V61 – I want to put my affairs in order at home. He could have had Elisha/Elijah in mind as in 1Kings 19:19-20. Elijah allowed Elisha to go home. But here in this verse Jesus said ‘NO’ to him because He felt that this guy would get caught up in his affairs and would not return.

Meaning...There is no one who can properly work in ministry and give it his/her all and want to work in secular employment. You cannot do the work of the ministry and fully desire to be involved in the worldly system.

Paul the apostle worked (tent making) to support his ministry. Paul did work but he was 100% focussed on kingdom of God ministry. His tent making was so he could eat for at least 2 reasons.

a) Many people who were suppose to give “didn’t”.

b) Many people who were suppose to help him in ministry ‘didn’t’.

e.g. Demas – Col. 4:14 (written A.D. 60, 61) Joins Paul and then left Paul in **2 Tim. 4:10** (A.D. 67) V10 – ***“For Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world and has departed for Thessalonica.”***

Here are three questions for thought.

Question #1 – Could we have got more revelation knowledge out of Paul if people stayed with him and gave to him like they said they would instead of him having to take extra time to work and pray for his own needs?

Question #2 – Depending on the Lord of course, could we have had 1 or 2 more books of instruction in the New Testament portion of the Bible?

Question #3 – What if he had more armour bearers to pray and intercede for him concerning the thorn in his flesh?

Without Paul we couldn't have the revelation of righteousness.

Luke 14:25-35 (amplified)

“25 Now huge crowds were going along with [Jesus], and He turned and said to them, 26 If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his [own] father and mother (Hate means to love less than the Lord) [in the sense of indifference to or relative disregard for them in comparison with his attitude toward God] and [likewise] his wife and children and brothers and sisters—[yes] and even his own life also—he cannot be My disciple. 27 Whoever does not persevere and carry his own cross and come after (follow) Me cannot be My disciple. (Cross means to endure afflictions & persecutions and walk in your new nature no matter what)

28 For which of you, wishing to build a farm building, does not first sit down and calculate the cost [to see] whether he has sufficient means to finish it? 29 Otherwise, when he has laid the foundation and is unable to complete [the building], all who see it will begin to mock and jeer at him, 30 Saying, This man began to build and was not able (worth enough) to finish. 31 Or what king, going out to engage in conflict with another king, will not first sit down and consider and take counsel whether he is able with ten thousand [men] to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 And if he cannot [do so], when the other king is still a great way off, he sends an envoy and asks the terms of peace. 33 So then, any of you who does not forsake (renounce, surrender claim to, give up, say good-bye to) all that he has cannot be My disciple. 34 Salt is good [an excellent thing], but if salt has lost its strength and has become salt less (insipid, flat), how shall its saltiness be restored? 35 It is fit neither for the land nor for the manure heap; men throw it away. He who has ears to hear, let him listen and consider and comprehend by hearing!”

V26 – The 2 commandments Jesus talked about in Mark 12:30-31

V28 – TOWER (V25-30)

This parable represents the absurdity of those who undertook to be disciples of Christ without considering the difficulties

they were to meet with. And what strength they had to go through with the undertaking. Anyone who is a true disciple of Christ will require no less than the mighty power of God to support him because both hell and earth will unite to destroy him.

We must learn to walk “Consistently” in the Spirit – That’s inner man Spirit led by the Holy Spirit. The Key word is **consistent.**

V31-33 – WAR

Christianity is a constant warfare and we have the complete victory if we keep our spiritual eyes on Him.

Is. 26:3 “He will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on Him.”

2 Cor. 10:3-5 “Our weapons are mighty in God for pulling down strongholds casting down every high thing that exalts itself against God and bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.”

V34-35 – SALT

“We are compared to salt”. In Jesus day salt could become tasteless in adverse conditions and its residue becomes useless.

As Christian believers we will see adversity – “Jesus did.”

Heb. 5:8 “Though He was a Son, He learned active special obedience through what He suffered.”

Suffered in Strong's Concordance #3958 means: To experience and endure unpleasant experiences.

1 Peter 5:6-11 talks about our adversary the devil walking around as a roaring lion seeking to devour us but we are to resist him.

V10 (amplified)

“10 And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace [Who imparts all blessing and favour], Who has called you to His [own] eternal glory in Christ Jesus, will Himself complete and make you what you ought to be, establish and ground you securely, and strengthen, and settle you.”

We have all the tools and instructions we need to be the person that God Himself says we are. He has not forgotten anything. Even if you don't believe what God says about you, doesn't make it any less of a truth. If we familiarize our self with what God says and apply it to our life, **IT WILL WORK.**

Eph. 4:23-32

“23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. 25 Therefore, putting away lying, “Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbour,” for we are members of one another. 26 “Be angry, and do not sin”: do not let the sun go down on

your wrath, 27 nor give place to the devil. 28 Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labour, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need. 29 Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. 32 And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.”

Let's put away the old life and put on the new man. That's our responsibility as a Christian.

Prayer for Salvation

Dear Heavenly Father,

I come to you now. I turn away from my sins right now and I accept Your Son Jesus Christ into my life to be my personal Lord and Saviour. I thank you that Your Word is true and that my name is now being written into Your Book of Life and that You have accepted me for who I am and the way I am without judgement. Lord please change me to become more and more like Jesus. Thank you, for I am eternally grateful. Amen.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

If you need prayer contact us at our website: www.rotm.ca
or phone us at 1-647-692-7686



DONNA & MIKE O'BRIEN



**AS WE HAVE BEEN TRAVELLING AND
MINISTERING WE SEE THE NEED IN THE
BODY OF CHRIST TO REMIND PEOPLE
OF THE BASICS OF OUR CHRISTIAN FAITH**



**REVERENDS MICHAEL
& DONNA O'BRIEN**

**647-692-ROTM
(7686)**

E: MIKE@ROTM.CA



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IT IS TIME FOR A REVIVAL OF THE TRUTH